ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DOCKETED

Special Services Fees and Classifications)

Docket No. MC96-3

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE
INTERROGATORIES TO UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
(OCA/USPS-5-8)
(July 15, 1996)

Pursuant to sections 25 and 26 of the Rules of Practice of the Postal Rate Commission, the Office of the Consumer Advocate hereby submits interrogatories and requests for production of documents. Instructions included with OCA Interrogatories 1-4 to the United States Postal Service dated June 19, 1996, are hereby incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

GAIL WILLETTE

Director

Office of the Consumer Advocate

DAVID RUDERMAN

Attorney

OCA/USPS-5 The purpose of this interrogatory is to find out what public statements have been made by the *Postmaster General* concerning future rate increases during the last six months.

Information provided in response to interrogatory OCA/USPS-T8-18 may be incorporated by reference.

- a. Within the last six months, has the Postmaster General made any public statements concerning the timing of (1) the filing of the next omnibus rate case or (2) when there will be omnibus rate increases? Please identify each instance.
- b. Please provide copies of appropriate documents either quoting or describing statements the Postmaster General made within the last six months concerning (1) the filing of the next omnibus rate case or (2) the timing of the next omnibus rate increases.

OCA/USPS-6. Please provide the Postal Service's most recent estimates of profit and loss for FY 1996, FY 1997 and FY 1998. To the extent available, information provided in response to this interrogatory should show revenues by class, subclass and special service and costs by expense category. Information already filed with the Commission may be incorporated by reference.

OCA/USPS-7. Refer to the response to OCA/USPS-1 concerning the recovery of prior years' loss amounts.

- a. Please specify the target amount in dollars for recovery of prior years' losses in FY 1996, 1997 and 1998.
- b. Please estimate the amount in dollars by which the new revenues resulting from special service reforms will cause the recovery of prior years' losses in FY 1997 and 1998 to "equal or exceed the cumulative prior years' losses recovery target" amount for FY 1997 and 1998.

OCA/USPS-8. Refer to the response to OCA/USPS-1 concerning the recovery of prior years' loss amounts, and the Wednesday, July 3, 1996 edition of The Washington Post, at page A23, wherein the Postmaster General is quoted as saying "we expect year-end net income to approach \$1 billion." For FY 1996, rank in order of importance the following priorities for use of the estimated \$1 billion: recover prior years' losses, extend the rate cycle, refinance USPS debt, or restructure the organization of the Postal Service. Please explain your answer.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 3.B(3) of the special rules of practice.

DAVID RUDERMAN

Attorney

Washington, DC 20268-0001 July 15, 1996